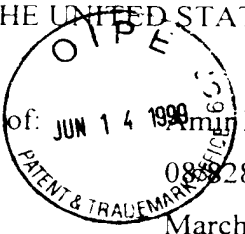


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  Amir M. Saffarian

Serial No.: 08828.022

Filing Date: March 27, 1997

Group Art Unit: 2876

Examiner: D. Rodriquez

Title: AUTOMATED SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CHECK
AMOUNT ENCODING AT A POINT-OF-SALE

Box: AF

Assistant Commissioner for

Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date below.



Denise Hill

5-3-99

Date of Signature

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

In response to the Official Action mailed March 2, 1999, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the amendments to the claims and the comments as set forth below. The entry of this amendment is respectfully requested in order to place the claims in better form for consideration on appeal. Please amend the Application as follows.

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